

MEDIA ADVISORY

City of South Fulton Government

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South Fulton to Honor Georgia's Youngest Certified Farmer – a Veteran at 6 Years Old

(City of South Fulton, GA – Sept. 23, 2021) – At a diminutive height, Kendall Rae Johnson strolls around her garden among plants that dwarf her 6-year-old body.

But, her passion for growing things looms larger than life. In fact, Kendall holds the designation of Georgia's youngest certified farmer. Her plans, voiced with assured enthusiasm, produce visions of an even bigger future.

"My garden is my favorite part of my house," Kendall says in a video from her website, agrowkulture.com. "I grow carrots and they are deeeelicious. My goal is to meet new friends and inspire other kids.

The City of South Fulton will host officials from the city, Atlanta and the State of Georgia for a special proclamation ceremony Sept. 28 honoring Kendall's accomplishments. The event starts at 1 p.m. at the Southwest Arts Center.

"Agriculture, by far, remains the state's largest industry," said Mayor William "Bill" Edwards. "Still, it remains an industry with few women. With her enthusiasm, determination and love for gardening, Kendall is about to change that. We are proud of such an accomplished young lady at such a young age."

Kendall's love for fruits and vegetables traces back to her great-grandmother Laura "Kate" Williams, according to her website. It all started on a small patio garden, where the two planted cucumbers, peppers, tomatoes and collard greens.

When she was 4 years old, Kendall's parents built a larger garden bed, where she planted seeds and watched plants grow. With a huge sense of pride, the precocious youngster invited friends to help harvest her garden. She would walk each of them around, highlighting and explaining each plant she had grown.

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Seeking to share her love of crop-raising, Kendall partnered with Georgia Rep. Mandisha Thomas to raise \$85,000 to support young farmers in the City of South Fulton. Now, she is working to garner another \$10,000 to build an outdoor agricultural science learning space.

Amidst all the planting and harvesting, Kendall also finds time to serve 18 monthly memberships, providing food to subscribers; host a kid's garden club and encourage other young farmers through public appearances.

That's not bad for someone in the first grade. Kendall's future indeed seems to be blooming.

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About the City of South Fulton

Home to more than 100,000 residents, the City of South Fulton is Georgia's fifth-largest city. It covers more than 85 square miles and features both urban and rural landscapes with the most undeveloped land on metro Atlanta's southern side. Incorporated on May 1, 2017, South Fulton is among Georgia's youngest and fasts-growing cities — on the rise and recognized as the place you want to be. Learn more, download our smartphone app and connect with us on social media at cityofsouthfultonga.gov.